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UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL - PRESCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS

Mobile Telephone Number: 07480369531 (Pre-school phone)

February 2019

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term.

Please see below important information about the Preschool

Monday Afternoon Session

From the feedback we received and from seeing how popular the Wednesday and Thursday afternoon sessions have been, we have decided to open up on a Monday afternoon for a longer session also. After talking to the church, we are able to start the Monday sessions slightly earlier than we originally thought, therefore the new date we will be **Monday 25th March**. If you are interested in your child joining us on a Monday, please come and see me and I will add them to the list.

Going forward if parents want the longer sessions and there is a demand we are also looking to open on a Tuesday afternoon after Easter.

Easter Sing Along

On our last day of term, **Thursday 4th April**, we will be holding our traditional Easter Sing Along and it would be lovely if you could join us whether your child is usually in that morning or not. If your child does not normally attend a Thursday session and you would like them to join us on this day please bring them in at the normal drop off time of 9.00am. For those of you who are new, on Thursday 4th April we will all come together for a picnic and a sing along with the children. We will start with a small service and singing in the church, the church doors will be open for parents from 11.15am onwards. After the sing along we will then either move into the hall or into the garden for our picnic, depending on the weather. Please bring a picnic lunch for your child and yourself. After lunch, there will be an Easter Egg hunt for the children which you can do with them.

Date: **Thursday 4th April**

Time: **11.30– 1.00**

Place: Singing – in the URC church

Picnic – in the Hall or Garden

Please note there will **NOT** be a longer session on this day and although the staff will be there for the picnic they will not be responsible for your child/dren from 12.00pm onwards. If you are unable to join us for the sing along, please ensure you are there at normal collection time of 12.00pm to either join us for the picnic or to take your child home.

Return to Preschool

Our first day back after the Easter break is Wednesday 24th April.

World Book Day

We thought to celebrate World Book Day this year on **Thursday 7th March**, it would be nice if the children could dress up and come in as one of their favourite characters to celebrate.

Dates and Term Dates 2019

Spring Term

Begins -Tuesday 8th January 2019

Ends -Thursday 4th April 2019

Half Term – Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February

Summer Term

Begins – Wednesday 24th April

Ends – Thursday 18^h July

Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May

INSET DAY – Tuesday 23rd April

Half Term – Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Term Dates 2019-2020

Autumn Term 2019

Begins -Tuesday 3rd September

Ends - Thursday 19th December 2019

Half Term – Monday 28th October – Wednesday 6th November 2019

Inset Day – Monday 2nd September 2019

Inset Day – Monday 4th November 2019

Occasional Day – Tuesday 5th November 2019

Spring Term 2020

Begins- Tuesday 7th January

Ends - Thursday 2nd April 2020

Half Term – Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2020

Inset Day – Monday 6th January 2020

Summer Term 2020

Begins- Tuesday 21st April –

Ends - Thursday 16^h July 2020

Half Term – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2020

Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May 2020

Inset Day – Monday 20th April

Please note the longer October Half Term

Dates for your Diary

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Easter Sing Along – Thursday 4th April

Sports Day – Tuesday 16th July (details to follow)

Leavers Week – Monday 15th July – Thursday 18th July (We will say Goodbye to the children who will be leaving us during this week, which day will depend on what sessions they attend)

Tapestry

Please remember to continually check your child's Tapestry account as observations come out regularly. When you receive anything on Tapestry about your child, please can we ask you to make a comment back to us as it's a good way of communicating with your Key person. You can also add your own pictures and videos of things you might have done with your child at home; this is a good way of keeping those special memories.

Sickness

Parents must keep any child at home who have an infection. You are also asked not to bring any child into pre-school who has been vomiting or had diarrhoea until a clear **48 hours** has elapsed (this is a Health & Safety recommendation). This means 48 hours after the last time your child was sick, if your child comes in before this time they will not only infect the other children but the staff as well.

Please may I remind you to inform us before 09.00 on the following number (07563539096) if your child is sick and will not be in pre-school, as we need to keep a record of children who are absent. If a child is continually absent it will be necessary for us to inform Ofsted.

Parents will be informed if there are any infections such as head lice, impetigo or childhood infectious diseases which may affect other children or their parents.

Gates

As you know, both the gates lead onto the road from the garden. Please can you close and place the chain on the hook **every time** you come in or out of the gate. **I have witnessed a couple of times recently whilst standing at the door at drop off and pick up, some parents leaving them open!** It is necessary that you do this for the safety of all the children.

Library

Please remember that at the end of each session you will be able to choose a book with your child from one of our 2 trolleys. There will be a book next to one of the trolleys where you will need to write down your child's name and the name of the book you are borrowing. We then ask you to sign it back in when you return it to us.

Boards

Upon pick up please remember to read the boards in the main room as they are updated daily. They will give you relevant information of what your child has been doing that day or any important notices we might need to inform you about.

Emails

We send out the newsletters and any notices via email, however there will always be a hard copy available if you prefer- just ask your Key Person.

Mobile Phones & Cameras

Please remember that mobile phones and cameras are not to be used whilst you are on the premises. If we are celebrating your child's birthday, a member of staff will capture the special occasion for you on Tapestry and then add it to your child's journal for you to view.

Hot Drinks

Hot drinks are not allowed to be brought into any of the rooms when dropping or picking your child up. You are asked to leave your cup on the parent's table out of reach of the children until you are ready to leave the premises.

Washing Up & Morning Help Rota

It helps us enormously if any parents/ carers whose children are not staying for lunch club or the full day sessions could sign up to wash up at the end of each morning. Please find the rota on the parent's table if you can spare 10 minutes of your time. It leaves the staff free to work with the children. Thank you.

Collecting Children

As you know the safety of your children is important at all times and this is why we have the password system in place when the children are being collected. Please remember if you are not collecting your child, then the person collecting him/her will need the current password. We feel that this system, now widely used in pre-schools is an extra addition to our usual thorough security measures. If you are unsure about the password system, please have a word with me. Please can you remember to sign your child out of pre-school after each session.

Remember to tell either myself or a member of staff if you have a new phone or mobile number.

Fruit/Vegetable Basket

Last term you were excellent at checking the fruit/vegetable bowl and keeping it full; the children had a great variety of different things to try, so I ask that you continue to do so.

PTA

Just a reminder to buy your Quiz night tickets!!

Saturday 2nd March @ 7.30pm .

Tickets cost £12 and include fish and chips from Godfreys.

There will be a cash bar on the night.

Tickets are on sale now from myself and Rachael Churchill at drop off and pick up.

Last day to buy tickets Thursday 28th February

Bag 2 School is back!!

Collection Date - Thursday 21st March

If you are thinking of having a good clear out now that Spring is in the air, please could you donate your unwanted bits and bobs to us at Preschool. We will have bags to give you to fill but, in the meantime, please use any bags you have available. I am happy for you to start bringing them into preschool now and I will store them until the collection date.

We receive free funds based on the weight and contents of all the bags we collect!

List of items Accepted

Mens, Ladies and Children's clothing
Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
Handbags
Hats
Bags
Scarves and hats
Jewellery
Lingerie
Socks
Belts
Soft Toys
Household Linen
Household Curtains
Household Towels
Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Kind regards

Lorraine Robinson